

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 03709 231716Z

64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IGA-02 AID-20 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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R 231642Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO RUEHCGXSECSTATE WASHDC 5125

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 3709

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, NU

SUBJECT: LIPPE LETTER DRAWS FIRE

1. ON SEPTEMBER 12 OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER LA PRENSA PUBLISHED

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN CASIMIRO A. SOTELO, A NICARAGUAN RESIDENT OF THE U.S., AND FORMER NICARAGUA DESK OFFICER STUART LIPPE. SOTELO LETTER ATTACKS ELECTION OF SEPTEMBER 1 AS A FRAUD AND IS CRITICAL OF US ASSISTANCE TO GON. LA PRENSA INTRODUCES LETTERS MAKING POINT THAT ALTHOUGH LIPPE'S REPLY DOES NOT ADDRESS POLITICAL QUESTIONS POSED BY SOTELO, LETTER DOES STATE THAT U.S. ASSISTANCE SINCE EARTHQUAKE HAS BEEN GIVEN IN GOODS NOT CURRENCY AND UNDER CLOSE SUPERVISION.

2. REACTION TO LA PRENSA STORY APPEARED IN SOMOZA-OWNED NOVEDADES SPETEMBER 17. EDITORIAL WRITTEN BY COMMENTATOR FOR BOTH GON OFFICIAL RADIO NETWORK AND SOMOZA OWNED TELEVISION STATION REFERS TO LIPPE LETTER AS EVASIVE REPLY OF A QUOTE FOURTH CATEGORY FUNCTIONARY WHOSE PRENOUNCEMENTS DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE USG POSITION END QUOTE. IT ALSO CRITICIZED ATTEMPT TO MAKE DESTINCTION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE AS OPPOSED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA. EDITORIAL INTERPRETED QUOTE AMBIGUOUS END QUOTE REPLY OF DEPARTMENT AS REJECTION OF THIS EXPATRIATE WHO YEARNES FOR THE ROLE OF THE YANKEE MASTER AND FOREIGN

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INTERVENTION.

3. COMMENT: NOVEDADES EDITORIAL REFLECTED EXTREME GON
SENSITIVITY NOT ONLY ABOUT ITS POLITICAL IMAGE IN THE U.S.
BUT ALSO AS TO ANY HINT THAT THERE IS ANYTHING BUT COMPLETE MUTUAL
TRUST IN U.S.-NICARAGUAN RELATIONS.
WARNER

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NNN

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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